



How to Make a Journal Club Presentation

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Introduction

When making a journal club presentation, be sure to cover the following:

1. Provide a brief background on the study,
2. State the study's hypothesis from the study,
3. Describe the basic approach used in the study,
4. Describe the results of the study,
5. Explain the significance of results of the study, and
6. Critique the study.

Providing a brief background on the study

- Explain the rationale for undertaking the study.
 - What is the context for this study?
 - What previous work led up to experiments done in this study?
- Focus on key studies leading to this set of experiments and explain the importance of the problem in a wider context.

State the study's hypothesis from the study

- State the study's hypothesis.
 - What are the scientific questions being addressed in this study?

Describe the basic approach used in the study

- Briefly describe model system and/or special techniques being used.
 - Why did the authors choose this system/technique to address the questions?
 - What are the advantages/disadvantages of the system/technique chosen for this study?
- This section will be of varying importance for different papers.

Describe the results of the study

- Briefly describe data shown in each figure.
- State conclusions made from each figure.

Explain the significance of results of the study

- Briefly describe what the importance of the results.
 - Has this study changed the way of thinking in the field?
 - Have the results refuted existing models or proposed mechanisms?
 - Have the results provided more definitive evidence to support these existing models/mechanisms?
 - What new hypotheses/experiments are suggested by this work?

Critique the study

- Remember to critique (critically discuss) the study.
 - Are there alternative interpretations for the data presented?
 - Can you think of additional controls that should have been done?
 - What other approaches could be undertaken to improve on this study?